Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-11

DRC-01 /147 W

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R 290800Z MAR 74
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 871
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CONFIDENTIAL BAGHDAD 187V

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, IZ, AF

SUBJECT: IRAQI-AFGHAN RELATIONS

REF: KABUL 1840

1. INDIAN CHARGE TOLD ME MARCH 28 THAT HE THOUGHT PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS TAKEN UP BY AFGHAN PRESIDENT DAOUD'S PERSONAL ENVOY MOHAMMED NAEEM DURING MARCH 26-28 VISIT WERE EXPULSION OF AFGHANS, IRAQI FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, AND POSSIBLE COORDINATED POLICIES VIS-A-VIS IRAN AND PAKISTAN.

2. ON EXPULSION OF AFGHAND, NAEEM HAD, ACCORDING TO INDIAN EMBOFF, ALREADY SUCCEEDED. RCC DECISION TO EXPELL ALL NON-ARAB FOREIGNERS ISSUED IN EARLY MARCH WOULD HAVE PRIMARILY AFFECTED AFGHANS, INDIANS AND PAKISTANIS. AFGHANS BY FAR MOST NUMEROUS AT ABOUT 25,000. BOTH INDIAN AND PAKISTANI EMBASSIES HAD MADE STRONG REPRESENTATIONS FOR THEIR COMMUNITIES OF SEVERAL THOUSAND BUT TO NO AVAIL. THEY CONFIDENTIAL

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THEN RECOMMENDED TO THEIR NATIONALS THAT THEY DEPART AS SOON

AS POSSIBLE. ON MARCH 27 RCC SUDDELY RESCINDED ORDER.

3. COMMENT: IRAQ PLACES CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE ON ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH AFGHANISTAN IN VIEW OF ITS CONTINUOUS CONFLICT WITH IRAN. THEREFORE, VERY STRONG AFGHAN DEMARCHE ON EXPULSIONS MIGHT HAVE GIVEN NEEDED ADDED WEIGHT TO EARLIER DEMARCHES ON BEHALF MUCH SMALLER INDIAN AND PAKISTANI COMMUNITIES. LOWRIE

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